

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-11 IO-14

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FM AMEMBASSY NASSAU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5986

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

CCGDSEVEN MIAMI

DEA MIAMI

FBI MIAMI

CUSTOMS MIAMI

FAA WASHDC

DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC

DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION WASHDC

DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L NASSAU 1592

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR CFED PFOR TK UK

SUBJ: TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS: GOVERNOR REQUESTS US AGENCIES
CLEAR LOCAL ACTIVITIES

1. AT END OF COURTESY CALL ON DCM ON AUGUST 29, A. G. MITCHELL, GOVERNOR OF TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS, REQUESTED ASSISTANCE IN IDENTIFYING, KEEPING TRACK OF, AND COORDINATING ACTIVITIES OF VARIOUS US GOVERNMENT AGENCIES IN TURKS AND CAICOS. MITCHELL SAID HE WAS BRINGING PROBLEM TO DCM'S ATTENTION INASMUCH AS DCM SERVED AS HIS US GOVT CONTACT AND HE COULD THINK OF NO OTHER WAY TO OBTAIN KIND OF ASSISTANCE HE NEEDED.

2. AS GOVERNOR OF TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS, MITCHELL BELIEVES STRONGLY IN THE NEED FOR COOPERATION WITH US GOVT AGENCIES IN
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THE AREAS OF CUSTOMS, NARCOTICS, SEARCH AND RESEARCH, AIR CON-

TROL, ETC. AND STANDS READY TO PROVIDE WHATEVER COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE IS WITHIN HIS POWER TO PROVIDE. HE BELIEVES, HOWEVER, THAT AS GOVERNOR, HE MUST KNOW WHAT IS HAPPENING AND MUST HAVE IDENTIFIED TO HIM AGENTS OF US GOVT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES PURSUING US GOVT OBJECTIVES IN THE ISLANDS. MITCHELL SAID HE DID NOT WISH TO PLACE OBSTACLES IN THE WAY OF COOPERATION BUT NEITHER DID HE WISH TO PERMIT A SITUATION TO DEVELOP IN WHICH HIS GOVT WAS EMBARRASSED, INTERNAL POLITICAL PROBLEMS WERE CREATED, OR IMPORTANT ACTIVITIES OF US GOVT WERE COMPROMISED. HE DID NOT CARE TO ELABORATE ON WHAT SPECIFIC INSTANCES GAVE RISE TO HIS REQUEST, BUT HE DID SAY HE THOUGHT COORDINATION AND CLEARANCE ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT IN NARCOTICS FIELD.

3. MITCHELL REQUESTED THAT REGIONAL DIRECTORS OF AGENCIES OPERATING IN TURKS AND CAICOS COMMUNICATE WITH HIM (A) TO DESCRIBE PROGRAMS THEY ARE PURSUING; (B) INDICATE THE KINDS OF ACTIVITIES IN WHICH THEY WOULD BE ENGAGING IN TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS TO MEET THE OBJECTIVES OF THOSE PROGRAMS; AND (C) ON EACH OCCASION, TO ANNOUNCE THE ARRIVAL OF AGENTS WHO WILL BE ENGAGING IN ACTIVITIES IN TURKS AND CAICOS.

4. MITCHELL ALSO RAISED QUESTION OF HOW HE WAS TO KNOW WHICH OF THE SEVERAL AGENCIES THAT MIGHT BE PURSUING SAME PROBLEM IN FACT SPOKE FOR US GOVT. DCM SAID THAT IN COUNTRY IN WHICH THERE WAS AN EMBASSY, HE COULD SEEK THIS KING OF INFORMATION IN GENERAL FROM THE EMBASSY ALTHOUGH IN SOME INSTANCES, AS HAD BEEN OUR EXPERIENCE IN NASSAU, COORDINATION WAS MORE EASILY ACHIEVED AND A COORDINATED ACTION PROGRAM MORE SUCCESSFULLY PURSUED IF COORDINATION TOOK PLACE AMONG REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS OF AGENCIES CONCERNED. DCM COULD NOT OFFER ANY SOLUTION TO HIS QUESTION AS TO WHETHER EMBASSY NASSAU COULD PERFORM COORDINATING FUNCTION. DCM POINTED OUT THAT DISTANCES AND LACK OF EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION MADE THIS EXTREMELY DIFFICULT BUT THAT IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE, WHENEVER PROBLEMS AROSE, FOR DCM, THROUGH EMBASSY NASSAU, TO MAKE HIS CASE FOR GREATER COOPERATION WITH APPROPRIATE WASHINGTON AGENCIES.

5. IN VIEW GOVERNOR'S EXPRESSED CONCERN AND DCM'S INTENDED VISIT TO TURKS AND CAICOS NEAR END OF OCTOBER, WE WOULD APPRECIATE BEING ADVISED AS TO WHAT STEPS US AGENCIES ARE PREPARED

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TO TAKE TO MEET GOVERNOR'S CONCERNS AND THEREBY ENHANCE US COOPERATION WITH GOVERNMENT OF TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS. WE WOULD WANT ESPECIALLY TO BE ABLE TO IDENTIFY FOR THE GOVERNOR HIS CONTACTS IN AGENCIES WHICH ARE OR WILL LIKELY TO BE ACTIVE IN TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS AREA AND TO DESCRIBE FOR HIM PROCEDURES THEY WILL FOLLOW TO ENSURE COORDINATED EFFORTS AND THE FULLEST POSSIBLE SHARING OF INFORMATION WITH HIM.

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